

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20463

FEB 2 5 2005

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mei Fung Choi 2901 South Union Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616

RE: MUR 5405

Dear Ms. Choi:

On February 8, 2005, the Federal Election Commission found reason to believe that you violated 2 U.S.C. § 441f, a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act."), by permitting Apex Healthcare, Inc. to reimburse you for a contribution you made to a federal political committee. However, after considering the circumstances of this matter, the Commission also determined to take no further action and closed its file as it pertains to you. The Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's finding, is attached for your information.

The Commission admonishes you and reminds you that making contributions in the name of another violates Section 441f of the Act. You should take steps to ensure that this activity does not occur in the future.

There is a federal statute, 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12), requiring all persons to keep confidential enforcement proceedings conducted by the Federal Election Commission, except with the written consent of the person who is the subject of the enforcement proceeding. This means that unless you have such written consent, you should not publicly disclose the existence of an ongoing Commission enforcement proceeding or the fact that the Commission has contacted you in connection with this matter. This restriction, however, does not prevent you from discussing the underlying facts and circumstances with any person, including the subject of the enforcement proceeding or their counsel. Also please note that respondents have an obligation to preserve all documents, records and materials relating to this matter.

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The Commission will notify you when the entire file has been closed. If you have any questions, please contact Adam Schwartz, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Toner Vice Chairman

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Enclosure Factual and Legal Analysis

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

RESPONDENT:

Mei Fung Choi

MUR 5405

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

This matter was generated by a complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission by Gerald Jaecks. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(1).

II. FACTUAL SUMMARY

Mei Fung Choi is the wife of Kin Cheung, an employee at Apex Healthcare, Inc.

("APEX"). Available information indicates that in 2003, Mr. Cheung approached his wife and told him that James Chao, the President and sole shareholder of APEX, asked Ms. Choi to write a personal check to a specific political committee with the promise that Mr. Chao would reimburse the contribution. Ms. Choi reportedly agreed to contribute based on the belief that Chao did not want other political candidates to know how much money he was contributing. Ms. Choi made a \$1,400 contribution to Hynes for Senate, the principal campaign committee of Daniel Hynes, on December 31, 2003. APEX, through James Chao, reimbursed Ms. Choi for this contribution.

III. <u>LEGAL ANALYSIS</u>

Ms. Choi made a contribution to a federal campaign committee with assurances from James Chao that he would reimburse her contribution.

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), prohibits any person from knowingly permitting his or her name to be used to effect a contribution in the name of another person. See 2 U.S.C. § 441f. By accepting reimbursement from APEX for her

contribution, Ms. Choi knowingly permitted her name to be used to effect contributions in the name of another in violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441f.

IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

Accordingly, there is reason to believe that Mei Fung Choi violated 2 U.S.C. § 441f by knowingly permitting her name to be used to effect contributions in the name of another.